

Regional Water Quality Control Board
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION (7)



SECTION 303 (d) LIST PROPOSALS

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Region 7: Alamo River Sedimentation/Siltation

Water Body	Alamo River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Sedimentation-Siltation/Water/Aquatic Life
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	N/A
Alternative Enforceable Program	N/A
RWQCB Recommendation	TMDL Completed.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff conclude that the water body should be placed on the TMDLs Completed List because a TMDL has been developed for the water body-pollutant combination. The TMDL has been approved by USEPA.

Region 7: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

Pathogens (was bacteria)

Water Body	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Pathogens (was bacteria)
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Unknown
Alternative Enforceable Program	
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description and source, and Alternative program description in Fact Sheet.

Region 7: New River

Pathogens (was bacteria)

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Pathogens (was bacteria)
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description.

Region 7: New River

Nutrients

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Nutrients/Water/Aquatic Life
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	No data available.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	The RWQCB monitors the New River for nutrients. Monitoring data shows that the New River carries nutrients in "relatively high concentrations."
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	
Water Body-specific Information	No data available.
Data used to assess water quality	The Region 7 Basin Plan contains a narrative water quality objective for biostimulatory substances (including nutrients). This objective applies to the New River. The RWQCB staff has documented "objectionable odors," and low dissolved oxygen conditions in the New River. Both these conditions may be indicative of harmful impact to beneficial uses due to nutrient loads. (The RWQCB staff instead points as a cause to raw sewage from Mexico.)
Spatial representation	No data available.
Temporal representation	No data available.
Data type	No data available.
Use of standard method	No data available.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Phosphates from Mexico and Imperial Valley.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	De-list.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Maintain Listing. There is no data available on which to base delisting. Staff report states that, RWQCB has no data showing that nutrients are violating water quality standards in the New River, however the River carries large amounts of nitrogen and phosphate which are causing eutrophic conditions and fish die-offs in the Salton Sea. Water quality conditions in the New River will need to be incorporated into TMDL for Salton Sea, so listing should be retained.

Region 7: New River

Dissolved oxygen

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Dissolved oxygen (Dissolved Oxygen) Water WARM, REC-1, REC-2
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to WQO.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan numeric WQO used.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected monthly from 1996-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB.
Temporal representation	Monthly for over 5 years.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List for dissolved organic matter.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 6. Standard methods were used. 7. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River Trash

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Trash/Water/WARM,WILD,REC-1, REC-2
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Direct observations of trash accumulation in River. Linked to aesthetics-related beneficial use.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Observed violation of US-Mexico treaty. Beneficial uses are directly impacted. Photographs can indicate gross impacts on beneficial uses and whether standards have been exceeded. Measurements of the amounts of trash can provide a relative measure of the potential for nuisance.
Water Body-specific Information	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Data used to assess water quality	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Spatial representation	Observations made at US/Mexico border and a few miles north.
Temporal representation	Monthly 8-hour and quarterly 24-hour observations made.
Data type	Observations, trash removal.
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Anthropogenic sources.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff conclude that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 6. Standard methods were used. 7. Other water body- or site-specific information including the effects of natural sources, season, storm events, and age of the data were considered.

Region 7: New River Trash

An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is high.

Region 7: New River p-DCB

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	p-DCB/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 5 to 12 times per year from 1995-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River o-Xylenes

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	o-Xylenes/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 2 to 11 times per year from 1996 - 2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1996-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River m,p,-Xylenes

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	m,p,-Xylenes/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 2 to 12 times per year from 1995-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River

1,2,4-trimethylbenzene

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	1,2,4-trimethylbenzene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 1 to 4 times per year from 1998-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1998-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River p-Cymene

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	p-Cymene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 1 to 6 times per year from 1995 to 2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River Toluene

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Toluene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected approximately monthly from 1995-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the age of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River Chloroform

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Chloroform/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Treaty.
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 6 times per year from 1996-2001.
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO.
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1996-2001.
Data type	Numeric data.
Use of standard method	Standard lab method.
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty.
RWQCB Recommendation	List.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	<p>After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff concludes that the water body should be placed on the section 303(d) list because applicable water quality standards are exceeded, a pollutant contributes to or causes the problem, and there is no other known program that can effectively address the problem at this time.</p> <p>This conclusion is based on the staff findings that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data is considered to be of adequate quality. 2. The data exhibited sufficient spatial and temporal coverage. 3. Beneficial uses have been established for and apply to the water body. 4. Water quality standard used is applicable. 5. The evaluation guideline used to interpret narrative water quality standards is adequate. 6. Data are both numerical and non-numerical. 7. Standard methods were used. 8. Other water body- or site-specific information including the of the data were considered. <p>An adequate number of the water quality measurements exceeded the water quality standard. The staff confidence that standards were exceeded is moderate.</p>

Region 7: New River

Bacteria

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Bacteria/Water/REC-1
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	N/A
Alternative Enforceable Program	N/A
RWQCB Recommendation	TMDL Completed.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	After reviewing the available data and information and the RWQCB documentation for this recommendation, SWRCB staff conclude that the water body should be placed on the TMDLs Completed List because a TMDL has been developed for the water body-pollutant combination. The TMDL has been approved by USEPA.

Region 7: Palo Verde Outfall Drain

Pathogens (was bacteria)

Water Body	Palo Verde Outfall Drain
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Pathogens (was bacteria)
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Unknown.
Alternative Enforceable Program	
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification.
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description and source, and Alternative program description in Fact Sheet.

Reference List for Region 7

Staff Report

California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Colorado River Basin Region. 2001. Staff Report on the Proposed Update of Clean Water Act 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies within the Colorado River Basin Region. October 16, 2001.

Public Input

In a letter dated February 28, 2001, the Regional Board staff solicited information from the public for updating its 303(d) List (see Attachment Two). The following agencies and persons submitted data in response to the letter:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR). Fax and E-mails with water quality data on the Colorado River above Imperial Dam and on the Brawley Wetlands Projects.

US Geological Survey. A hard copy from the USGS "Water Resources Data, Arizona, Water Year 1999" regarding water quality data on the Colorado River and tributaries to the Colorado River.

California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Letter referring the Regional Board staff to the Department's Internet Databases that include water quality data on the region's surface waters.

US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Letter reporting that Department is updating its water quality records

Big Bear Regional Wastewater Agency . Letter reporting water quality data on Big Bear Lake.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California . Letter reporting water quality data on Lake Havasu.

George Bernath at EarthLink. E-mail reporting water quality data on the Piute Spring.